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drink, as the first free allowance was stopped, and in a short time many were in an advanced stage of intoxication, amongst whom was our head chief. The terms of barter were a mantle or unbroken colt for two bottles of villainous Valdivian rum, which was, as the Tehuelches agreed, a very exorbitant price; but inasmuch as the dealers left it free for them either to go without or pay up, the liquor was soon finished and the merchants possessed of some eighteen new mantles and a good number of mares and colts. The artful Tehuelches, however, during the evening night, stole back a portion of the mantles, an disembogged the Araucanians about the horses, professing not to be able to catch them. Everything went on quietly until about three P.M., when a fight took place, but the combatants were disarmed. From this up to eight P.M., Quintuhual, Orkeke, and many of the people who had kept sober, were occupied in quelling disturbances, Casimiro being as bad as any, and sending for his gun wherewith to shoot some imagined enemy, which I fortunately intercepted, and after plugging up the nipples hid it behind the toldo. There was little sleep to be obtained till nearly morning, when the inebriated ones laid down anywhere and everywhere to sleep off their potations. The following morning Casimiro awoke with a bad headache and bad temper, and commenced talking about something that had been said to him the previous day, on which I informed him that he must have no shame left in him to get so intoxicated, and that no Indians could respect a chief who was the first to set an evil example by wishing to create a disturbance, while Quintuhual had remained sober, taking care of his people as became a chief, and that he (Casimiro) should have done the same. This raised the ire of the ancient monarch, who answered in a most impolite manner, so much so, that to avoid a row I left him to his bad head and quitted the toldo till he should be in a better frame of mind. Shortly after this little episode we broke up the camp and marched a few miles to the north.

Having been detained by a missing horse, I did not start with

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united forming one of considerable width. Here, under the shelter of some trees, we halted and lit fires to warm ourselves, for the drenching rain had by this time thoroughly found its way through our mantles. Whilst conversing and making as merry as possible under the circumstances, a messenger dashed up, splashed with blood, and with the effects of drink or furious excitement visible in his face. All crowded round to hear the news, and he shortly informed us that the party who had started to obtain spoils on the previous day had met another party of Indians with liquor. A drinking bout ensued, and a quarrel occurred in which a man was killed; but the rest went on drinking, leaving the body outside, where the dogs made a meal of it. This so exasperated one of his comrades that he galloped off to Chocorpe, to whose tribe the party belonged, and the chief at once sent twenty-five horsemen to surround my cousins and demand payment for the death. This they refused to give, so a fight took place, in which four out of the five brothers and another were left for dead, with lance thrusts all over them, the youngest escaping on his own or somebody else's horse, after dropping four of the enemy who tried to intercept him, with a revolver brought by me from Santa Cruz. This was bad news for us, as we were bound to protect these people, who belonged to our allied Indians. A consultation took place, in the middle of which Inacayal dashed up with a party all well armed with lances, in addition to their other arms. Foyel's people came next, eager for the fray; the Tehuelches, however, having an eye to business, in the way of bartering the mantles they had brought with them for trade, overruled the warlike ideas of these people, saying 'it was better to wait a little.' Meanwhile guns were loaded and arms got ready, and a party were being told off to proceed to the scene of the *melée* and pick up the wounded, when a messenger arrived from Chocorpe with proposals of a peace. I and the rest of the relations of those who had been killed, as we then supposed,

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The jealousy existing between Foyel and Chocupue, which 578
had broken out in the disturbance so nearly fatal to my
cousins, had existed ever since the migration of this chief
and Quintrileuvi to the north, and all the Araucanos of their
following kept themselves on this occasion as much as possible
aloof, and abstained from sharing in the festivities, while the
Tehuelches, who were unconcerned in the matter, enjoyed
themselves freely.

The next day Foyel and Quintrileuvi marshalled off their
followers in regular array, and proceeded homewards followed
by many of the Tehuelches, the great cause which it had
been settled to hold being abandoned in consequence of the
enemy state of feeling and the consequent fears of a quarrel:
the fight in that case would have been an obstinate one, as
Chocupue's forces would not have been much too strong for
their opponents, although outnumbering them. We had
been surprised on arriving not to find more Indians ready to
receive us, as we only counted ninety horses, but it transpired
that some were concealed in the woods by the side of the
river, who did not appear; besides these, seventy or a hundred
men had gone to Patagones to obtain their chief's ration
of cattle, but 200 more, friends and relations of Foyel, who
were on their march to the rendezvous at Las Mananas, had
turned back on hearing of the attack made by Chocupue's
party on their friends, my cousins. Whether they remained
away in order to be neutral or to come to the support of their
kinsmen did not appear, but Foyel had frequently boasted
that 200 of Chocupue's followers would espouse his quarrel.
The Pinnahues were the original cause of the feud. This 579
tribe, asserted by Antonio Grulin, who gave them the name 579
of Chulin, to be a branch of the Araucanians, are under
Chocupue's dominion, though governed by local caciques.
As already mentioned, they live near the passes of the
Cordilleras and plunder all travellers. They had not expected
Foyel's messenger bringing him stores from Valdivia, and at
last forcibly removed two sheepskins of rum, on which

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occasion some fighting ensued. Thereupon Foyel sent Chocoque a defiant message to the effect that if any more robberies by his subjects took place, he should make reprisals; that the latter chief must have imagined that he (Foyel) had forgotten how to ride and use his lance. All this was subsequently amicably settled, but in the end Foyel, who was by right under the rule of Chocoque, preferred to throw off his allegiance and retire across the Rio Limay. The chief reason alleged by him was that although Chocoque received large rations of cattle from the Buenos Ayrean Government, he never thought fit to share them with his subordinate chiefs. How far these stories were true I cannot say; as to the Pinnaches and their subjection to Chocoque, the Valdivians had been detained over a year waiting for a safe-conduct, which was obtained on the eve of our arrival, and so far as could be afterwards ascertained, they passed unmolested, although probably suffering loss of cattle from the weather, as it was full late in the year to cross the passes, which during the winter are obstructed by snow and swollen rivers.

Antonio and Ventura Delgado assured me that they would have to cross one river seven times owing to its tortuous windings, and on every occasion be obliged to swim their animals. This I had first fancied to be a branch of the Rio Limay, but in answer to other inquiries the Valdivians stated that it flowed to the westward. *Apropos* of this route, an enterprising German had some short time previously crossed from Valdivia to trade with the Indians; he was allowed to pass unmolested with all his merchandise, and drove a profitable trade, and at last started on his return journey with a goodly stock of horses and gear, but near the passes he was stripped of everything and left to make his way homewards on foot if possible. It was very tantalising to be so near Valdivia and not to be able to explore the route thither and visit the Pinnaches, and indeed Casimiro and myself had planned a trip from Las Manzanas, but it was abandoned, owing to the lateness of the season and